

BY TELEGRAPH.

WESTERN EXCURSIONISTS EN ROUTE FOR RICHMOND.

The President and Cabinet Officers Gone to Philadelphia.

BOTETOURT COUNTY.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

PINCISVILLE, May 7, 1877.

Great was the chagrin and astonishment of our community when on Saturday morning, the 2d inst., on finding that one Patrick Nestor, coming on horseback, had escaped from jail and was roaming the world at large. Equally great was our surprise on yesterday (Sunday) morning on seeing Pat, secured in a buggy and riding up Main street in charge of an officer of the law. This man has been in jail for more than a year, and has been in three separate trials, the verdicts of the respective juries being confinement in the penitentiary for fourteen, sixteen, and fifteen years. Through the instrumentality of too much law his conveyance, who the penitentiary has been, but doubtless he will shortly visit your city and find employment with (Colonel) Swann as contemporary with Lucien Breen.

We are having cool, cloudy weather, and consequently retarded vegetation, though the wheat crop is becoming the order of the day. With this, and through the energy of our district special fish commissioner, Mr. William J. Price, we hope to have an abundant supply of salmon, bass, trout, and perhaps catfish, in a few years.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

GREENVILLE, S. C., May 7, 1877.

For three days the commencement exercises of the Southern Baptist Seminary have been attracting much attention. Among the graduates are Rev. G. T. Gresham, of Lexington and Lynchburg, who has been expected the care of two churches in Florida; Rev. J. A. French, of Richmond, Va.; and Rev. S. C. Clifton, also of your city, who, it is understood, has a call from a church in Richmond, Va. Among the persons from a distance attending the Seminary commencement are Rev. H. A. Tupper and Rev. A. E. Dickinson, of Virginia.

Rev. Dr. Hiden is gaining a host of friends here, his eloquent and fervent sermons, his able and fresh sermons. Now that the political situation has cleared up, business enterprises are booming up, and I hear it stated that factories will be established in every part of the State. Greenville has a grand new population, with new houses and new buildings are going up in every direction.

More anon.

HERBERT.

The Dispatch says it was not a long letter but a long speech, which was the ideal of the day. But how about that "Scriptural quotation" which the Dispatch gives us? "In the midst of life we are in death." Please give us back, chapter, and verse.—*Christian Advocate.*

(You're joking. We do not remember ever to have used any such quotation.)

CHEAP SEWING-MACHINES.—At noon today one of the largest and most oppressive of all the monopolies of the country expired. We salute that series of patents upon the essential portions of the sewing-machine, which a strong and powerful monopoly from all manufacturers.

From this time forth any one can make a sewing-machine, and this branch of industry being thus thrown open to competition, the prices of sewing-machines will be about one-third of that hitherto charged for them. The idea of the inventor, that the people have to pay tribute to the sewing-machine monopoly, the New York World puts down the real cost of manufacturing a seventy-dollar machine at fifteen dollars.—*New York Ledger.*

TRIAL OF AN INVENTION.—A trial-trip was made yesterday in the lower harbor of the tug Alpha, with the object of testing a new invention to apply to canal-boats power enough to obtain a fair amount of speed without expending a small which will do it.

We found a handsomely fitted-up, well-modelled boat, built with the lines of a tug-boat, forty feet long, and a half foot beam, drawing four feet of water, and provided with a horizontally-placed tubular boiler of sixteen-inch diameter, and a single cylinder of large size. It knows force-pump, by which two streams of water are forced through two five-eighths-inch nozzles at the stern of the boat, thirty-six inches below the water-line, at which point resistance is afforded as great as can be obtained at the bow and expelled from nozzles at the stern acts on the water outside and propels the boat.

Similar attachments to nozzles in the bow and stern, and power backward as well as forward. Connections may also be made with hose similar to that used in fire departments; in fact, the Alpha has such an arrangement, experiments with it on yesterday being a strong and powerful half-inch nozzle fully one hundred feet high. The nozzles used to move the boat, it should be stated, are placed longitudinally with the keel and eject parallel streams. The trial trip, as stated, was in every way a success, the Alpha passing down the canal, and returning (ten miles) inside of an hour. The great point claimed for this appliance is economy, the inventor claiming that it can be put into any boat for a cost below \$1,000—doing away, as it does, with an engine and a crew of men, and requiring only one man enough to work the pumps. The test to which the Alpha was submitted does not, of course, show how much swell she will be in a confined space, as in a canal, where the banks would be a great hindrance to the water lock. At the same time she produced much less commotion in the water than the same sized tug-boat driven by a bladed propeller does.—*Baltimore American, 9th.*

THE SUEZ OF KANSAS—CONFLICTING ACCOUNTS.—London, May 9.—The Times's dispatch from Vienna says the news of the unsuccessful attempt of the Russians to carry Russia by a coup de main is confirmed by a Russian bulletin, which speaks of two attempts to storm the citadel.

The consequence of the apprehensions entertained at Constantinople about the fate of Kars are set at rest. The supposition that the Russians will not sit down before Kars, but will invest it and proceed with the bulk of their forces to take the city, is refuted by the Russian bulletin, which speaks of two attempts to storm the citadel.

OUR NAVY IN EUROPEAN WATERS. Rear-Admiral Worden reports his flagship Trenton at Villa Franca, the Miran at Smyrna, the Vandalia at Constantinople, and the Alliance on the coast of Syria.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE CALAMITY. The verdict of the coroner's jury sitting on the bodies of persons killed by the falling of the roof of the post-office at New York has this day been rendered. That the primary cause of the disaster is attributable to the incompetency of the agents of the Treasury Department charged with the erection and completion of the building; and that the United States Government is responsible for this calamity.

VARIOUS ITEMS. The President, Secretaries Evans, Sherman, Devens, and McCrary, left for Philadelphia today.

An article in the Republican saying, among other things, that Attorney-General Devens is about to retire from the Cabinet and take the mission to Constantinople, is pronounced unfounded in all its details.

The Russian Minister to-day gave formal notice to the State Department, Secretary Evans will reply in a diplomatic note.

The pension agencies under the consolidation will be the most valuable offices of the Government.

The State Department has advice of a distressing drought throughout Buenos Aires.

The commission appointed to examine into the fall of the roof of the post-office building in New York report that while they regret the disaster which killed three and wounded half a dozen persons, they find that it revealed other defects which might have resulted in a much more appalling disaster.

A radical weakness of a hidden girder in the roof of the post-office building at New York, was the cause of the disaster.

It is probable James Russell Lowell, of Harvard College, will be tendered the mission to Austria.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—If the reductions already made in the number of employees in the several departments and retrenchment in general expenditures be continued during the next fiscal year the aggregate of money saved will amount, to millions, and the economical measures of the new Administration will rival the sum saved to the public treasury by the last Democratic House.

Mr. Holman has been twice upon this by some of his late colleagues as illustrating the blindness of the House to some of the plainest modes of effecting retrenchment of public expenses without embarrassing the interests of the Government.

Republicans allege that whatever of extravagance there was during the last eight years was due to the laxity of the control of General Grant over the administration of affairs and the loose notions of his Cabinet counsellors; and they point to the immense sums already saved by the Hayes Administration as evidence that the Republican party meant real reform when they preached the theory from the stump last fall. The fact is, however, the Republican leaders are intensely disgusted that the President turns out to be one of those who believed they actually meant reform and honest government when they said so in the Cincinnati platform.

THE LATEST SENSATION AT THE CAPITOL.

is a report that the Cabinet will fall to pieces before many weeks have elapsed by the withdrawal of Devens, McCrary, and Schurz. It appears to be based upon a suspicion of incompatibility of political views on current questions and personal prejudices among the ministers. The latter is said to be more particularly directed toward Schurz, because of his severe denunciation of Grantism when it cursed the country, and some of his present Cabinet colleagues were its earnest supporters; yet Schurz seems to be utterly unconscious of any prejudice towards himself, and certainly has no idea of retiring.

McCrary is believed to have very little sympathy with the President's disposition of southern questions, and is positive under the repression of his own preferences. Besides, there are evidences of great dissatisfaction with Mr. Hayes from the bitter Republican State which McCrary represents. These are not sufficient grounds, however, to warrant the belief that he will let go his portfolio; and it is improbable that Devens would step down after having resigned a high judicial station to go into the Cabinet, except for more potent reasons than can now be assigned.

THE TURKISH MISSION, &c.

It was rumored that Devens was to be sent to Turkey in place of Minister Mayne, but when questioned about the matter to-day he said he knew nothing of it. He somewhat regrets that he exchanged the Supreme bench of Massachusetts for a place in the Cabinet, but thinks that leading around in Constantinople would not suit him any better than interpreting law for forty millions of people at eight thousand dollars per year.

Senator Gordon denounces as a falsehood the story that he had tendered the War portfolio. He thinks it originated with those who are seeking to injure him, with their own selfish ends in view.

EXISTENT MEN TO BE DISCHARGED.

The Secretary of War has ordered 2,500 enlisted men to be discharged between now and the first of July, in order that the reformed pay and allowances may be paid to the men before their discharge.

The contest has opened for the combined pension agency at New Orleans. R. H. Travels has had the local place for seven years. The contestants are J. Henri Burch, A. Hayes, Charles H. Packard, and Charles Hill (white), a deputy marshal under Packard.

DISPOSITION OF TROOPS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

During the discussion on the Rio Grande troubles in the Cabinet yesterday Secretary McCrary reported the force in Texas as follows: Eighth and Tenth regiments of cavalry, Tenth and Twentieth regiments of infantry. The Eighth cavalry and Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth infantry are colored. The cavalry regiments consist of twelve companies of one hundred men each. There will remain in the Department of the Gulf the Tenth and Twentieth regiments of cavalry, St. Martinsville, Coushatta, and Pineville, Louisiana, and the Thirtieth infantry, seven companies of which are in Louisiana and the balance in Arkansas.

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over the United States Court-room has been discovered. Sir Edward Thornton and Hon. Francis R. Plunkett remains in charge of legation.

Virginia.

THE MILTON AND SUTHERLIN NARROW-GAUGE RAILROAD COMMENCED.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.] SUTHERLIN, VA., May 9.—Dirt was broken on the Milton and Sutherlin Narrow-Gauge railroad at 3 o'clock P. M. to-day. The editor of the Milton Chronicle threw the first spadeful. Major Sutherlin made a speech to a large and very enthusiastic crowd.

West Virginia.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.] HUNTINGTON, W. VA., May 9.—Major W. S. Downer, late editor of the Advertiser, died suddenly this morning of heart-disease. He was a native of Eastern Virginia, and had resided here for five years.

Georgia.

CONVENTION IN THE INTEREST OF THE AUGUSTA AND KNOXVILLE RAILROAD.

AUGUSTA, May 9.—A convention in the interest of the Augusta and Knoxville railroad was held here to-day. Delegates were present from Tennessee, North and South Carolina, and Georgia. Mr. R. R. Wilson, of Knoxville, was elected president of the Convention. The Knoxville delegation agreed to put their part of the road from Knoxville to Rabun Gap under contract in ninety days. The Georgia delegation agreed to grade the road from Augusta to Toconia city, Franklin County. The prospect for building the road is favorable.

New York.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

NEW YORK, May 9.—The fifty-second annual meeting of the American Tract Society was held to-day. Hon. William L. Strong, L. L. D., Philadelphia, presiding. After an address the annual reports were read. The total receipts during the year were \$449,269.63; expenditures, \$441,119.74. Two hundred and nine colporters had labored in thirty-two States, visiting 1,037 meetings, made 12,823 family visits, and prayed with 98,378 families. During the thirty-six years of the Society's existence over 13,000,000 volumes have been distributed.

Pennsylvania.

FIFTH COUNCIL OF THE REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

PHILADELPHIA, May 9.—The Fifth General Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church commenced its session in this city this morning. A large number of clerical and lay deputies were in attendance. The morning service was read by Bishops George, Nicholson, and Fellows, and the sermon preached by Rev. Mason Gallagher, of Paterson, N. J., in which the communion was administered.

In the afternoon Bishop Fellows, of Chicago, was elected presiding bishop for the ensuing year, and Rev. Marshall B. Smith secretary. The principal business transacted was the presentation of the reports of Bishops Ordick, Nicholson, and Fellows, which has confirmed during the past year 287 persons. The Council will reconvene to-morrow.

COAL-MINE DISASTER—A NUMBER OF MEN IMPRISONED—SEVEN BODIES RECOVERED.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., May 9.—A great explosion of gas occurred this morning in the Wadesville mines, near Clair, Pa. The number of men imprisoned in the mine, and at present it seems impossible to rescue them. The morning service was read by Bishops George, Nicholson, and Fellows, and the sermon preached by Rev. Mason Gallagher, of Paterson, N. J., in which the communion was administered.

Second Dispatch.

POTTSVILLE, May 9.—It is reported from St. Clair that thirty men are imprisoned in the Wadesville mines, and their cries for assistance can be plainly heard. Six bodies have already been recovered.

Third Dispatch.

St. CLAIR, Pa., May 9.—The explosion killed seven and wounded six. Four were buried, and after search three bodies were recovered. One remains. There were the usual scenes at the mouth of the mine.

THE WESTERN BUSINESS-MEN EN ROUTE HITHERWARD.

CINCINNATI, May 9.—An excursion-party numbering one hundred and fifty business-men of Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville, Indianapolis, Evansville, Peoria, Memphis, and other points in the West, left here to-day for the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad en route to the seaboard. The party will reach Richmond, Va., on Friday. The tour will embrace all the principal cities on the seaboard between Richmond and Charleston.

LATENT FOREIGN NEWS.

England.

THE CHESTER TRADE-CUP RACE. LONDON, May 9.—Pageant won the Chester trade cup to-day. The betting was twenty-to-one against him. John Day was second, and Small third.

THE ARMY CLOTHING FACTORY BUSY AT WORK—WAGE PROSPECTS.

EDINBURGH, May 9.—The London correspondent of the Scotsman says: The army clothing factory in Grosvenor Road, Panmure, is particularly animated and busy at present. It is assured that the workmen are being employed. There is a general conviction in both military and naval official circles that we are on the immediate brink of war.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY WHICH SOME 25,000 MEN CAN BE EMBAKED WITHIN SIX DAYS IF NECESSARY, AND 20,000 MORE WITHIN A FORTNIGHT AFTER.

say from the details which I have been able to pick up that personally I am allured by the prospect of the war, but that those who are necessarily cognizant with everything of this kind speak to the above effect with apparent certainty on good and recent authority.

Muscovy vs. Moscow.

AN ENGAGEMENT AT GHILICIT. GALATZ, May 9.—Early this morning the Russian batteries recommenced cannonading Ghilicit, and at 9 A. M. a brisk musketry fire was audible at all points.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GRAND DUC NICHOLAS. Duke Nicholas telegraphs as follows: "Kicheneff, May 9.—All is well. The movement of the troops proceeds undisturbed. The Turks are entirely passive. The health of the troops is excellent."

AN ARTILLERY FIGHT BETWEEN TURKISH AND RUSSIAN BATTERIES.

BUCHAREST, May 9.—Evening.—The artillery engagement was renewed with vigor late yesterday afternoon between the Turkish batteries at Kalafat, which only ceased at nightfall. The barracks and the custom-house at Kalafat were destroyed, and the Turkish injured. Widen was set on fire. The Turks again fired to-day, but the Roumanian batteries were silent.

RUSSIA ABOUT ASSUMING THE AGGRESSIVE—IBRAHIM BOMBARDED BY TURKISH MONITORS.

LONDON, May 9.—There was great activity at Galatz last night, showing that Russia is about to assume the aggressive. Ibrahim sustained a three-hour bombardment from four Turkish monitors.

MOVEMENTS OF THE RUSSIAN COLUMB.

LONDON, May 9.—Reuter dispatch dated Erzeroum, Wednesday, 10 P. M., makes no mention of any fighting. It reports that the Russian column which was going down the line of the Turco-Persian frontier in the direction of Van has stopped at Bayazed on account of the loss of forage, and the inability of the country and the lack of forage.

AN ENTRENCHED CAMP AT THE SUZ CANAL.

COLOGNE, May 9.—The Gazette learns from Cass that a number of British officers have been sent to select a position for an entrenched camp at the entrance of the Suez canal.

THE TURKISH COMMANDER'S FIRST STAND—A HOLY WAR AGAINST INFIDEL RUSSIA.

VIENNA, May 9.—The Turkish commander has resolved to make the first stand in the defence of Dobruzhitsch, on the line from

Kustendje to Chirnavoda, and his next defence within the precincts of the quadrangle formed by the fortresses of Rutchuk, Varna, Shumla, and Silistria. Two monitors will be stationed so as to harass the Russians when they attempt to cross the Danube, and will be kept near Nicosia, on and after the 10th inst.

In a few days the annual Holy Pilgrim caravan will leave Constantinople for Mecca laden with costly presents for the Mohammedan shrines. The Sheikh Ul-Islam gave to the leader, who has been entrusted by the Sultan himself, instructions to proclaim in all the cities he passed through that Russia, who persecutes the Christians herself for not conforming to the orthodox faith, was now intent upon driving all believers in Islam from Europe.

The Sultan has therefore resolved to call all his faithful to a holy war against infidel Russia, and promises to go on a pilgrimage himself if the war proves successful to his arms.

FRIENDLY RECEPTION OF THE RUSSIANS.

St. PETERSBURG, May 9.—Count Lewashoff reports from Odessa that the torpedo arrangements are perfect, and that the Russian fleet will be filled with dynamite, which can be hurled with certainty by submerged boats against the hostile vessels. The following official dispatch has been received:

Tiflis, May 9.—The main body have recommended the neighborhood of Kars. A detachment of cavalry has been sent to Kagerman. One detachment is approaching Ardaman and another Dyadin. Everywhere the Russians meet with a friendly reception by both Christians and Mussulmans. The Turkish prisoners have been released from the hardships of military service.

NOTES OF THE WAR.

LONDON, May 9.—The Prime Minister Tisza stated in the Hungarian Diet that the neutrality of the Danube had never been expressly declared; therefore the interference of neutrals with the operations of belligerents is impossible while such operations are within the principles of international law.

The Times's Vienna correspondent, in his dispatch discussing the military situation in Asia, after speaking of the possibility of Moulkhar Pasha's position becoming untenable from the Russian point of view, says: "Fortunately for Moulkhar Pasha, there is a strong position at Deve and Bursa, to the east of Erzeroum, so that unless he is forced to accept battle in the neighborhood of Erzeroum, he can previously the Russians may be driven out of the neighborhood of Erzeroum before the Turks even make a serious attempt at resistance. The Turkish debt in the Asiatic campaign can hardly be considered successful. Their prominent idea seems to have been to stop all the gains along the frontier of the Russian Empire. It would not be easy to repair this scattering of forces, and Moulkhar Pasha may have better fortune than he had in Herzegovina if he can get back in time a portion of the forces wasted at Batoum and Ardahan, which would be needed to obtain reinforcements from elsewhere."

The Times, in a leading article, speaking of the remarks of Mr. Cross, Home Secretary, in the House of Commons on Monday night on Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, says: "Mr. Cross emphatically condemned the idea of a neutral policy, and he declared that the Government would do nothing to protect the Porte. Thus an end is put to the reports that the Government is inclined to let itself be made an instrument of clamors for war. Mr. Cross declared that a policy of neutrality would defend the interests of England; and what is more important, he named those interests. We should protect the Suez canal, guard Egypt, and not permit any Power to interfere with the freedom of the Dardanelles and the Bosporus. In fact, the policy of neutrality would be to defend the interests of our policy, and is also the policy of all Europe. None of the Powers could permit the freedom of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea to be hampered by the interests of England, which ought to be maintained, we have no thought of fear or gain. Before the face of the House of Commons, he declared, of England, of Europe, of the world, that the Government is conscious of the hostility of the Russian Empire, and that the interests of their own people desire for peace; they are conscious, if need be, of their strength, whenever the opportunity may offer, to stop this war, to heal these wretched divisions, to improve the condition of their country, and to improve the world, and really improve them; and that way, in Mr. Cross's opinion, is not by war, but by localizing, minimizing, or wiping away the effects of the war."

RUSSIAN BONDS AND AMERICAN GOLD.

LONDON, May 9.—The Times's financial article says: Large amounts of Russian bonds are going from London to the United States, and the sale of United States Treasury bonds. The Dutch, it seems, are selling called bonds of the United States Government to Americans, and instead of investing in new 4 per cent. Russian securities in London; the sale of Russian bonds is being largely effected from America by and its way here on Dutch account to be used in paying for their Russian stock.

DISSOLUTIONS & PARTNERSHIPS.

THE FIRM HERETOFORE DOING BUSINESS under the style of W. D. ROBERTS & CO. is this day (May 1st) mutually dissolved. The business will be continued by Mr. W. D. ROBERTS. All debts due to and by the late concern will be settled by Mr. ROBERTS.

TO MY FRIENDS AND THE PUBLIC.

I take this occasion to thank you for your kind patronage to the late concern. W. D. ROBERTS & CO. I am, in the same way, promising to do all in my power to please my patrons, and to keep a continuous supply of goods.

MINERAL WATERS.

BETHESDA WATER.—The best known remedy in the world for Diabetes, Gravel, Dropsy, and all diseases of the Kidney and Liver, and all ailments arising from impure blood. Water delivered in any part of the city. GEORGE SCHEN, 1100 Main street, ap 9

MINERAL WATER ON DRAUGHT.

S. O. P. KISSENGEN, VICIY, SARATOGA WATER, SELTZER, OTTAWA BEER, and GINGER ALE. Mineral waters also furnished in cypresses. GEORGE SCHEN, ap 9 1100, corner Main and Eleventh streets.

PROPOSALS.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA. OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. RICHMOND, April 26, 1877.

PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THIS OFFICE UNTIL THE 15TH OF MAY FOR FURNISHING COMPLETE, FROM TWO THOUSAND REGIMENTAL, KNOWN AS THE "MOFFETT LIQUOR REGIMENT," FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE REGIMENTAL BIDDING, BUT THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDDERS IS RESERVED. The mode of procuring the same is hereby notified. All proposals must be in writing, and must be deposited in this office at any time between the hours of 9 A. M. and 3 P. M.

For further information apply at this office either in person or by letter addressed to me at Richmond, Va. ap 27-td Auditor Public Accounts.

DENTISTS.

JUD. B. WOOD, D. D. S., M. D.

DENTAL OFFICE.

OVER MEASURES, MEADE & BAKER'S, 919 MAIN STREET.

L. M. COWARDIN, D. D. S., Assistant. Ja 1-eod

FINANCIAL.

RICHMOND STOCK EXCHANGE.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 1877.

SALES.—2,200 Virginia consols sold at 70 1/2.

American Gold.—100 bid. 71 1/2. Virginia consols.—Virginia consols, 70 1/2 bid. 71 1/2. American Gold.—100 bid. 71 1/2. Virginia consols.—Virginia consols, 70 1/2 bid. 71 1/2.

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